

LODGE ALSO TO
WAGE INQUIRY
INTO DEFENCES

Will Introduce in Senate
Resolution Asking for
Hearings.

PRESIDENT WILL SEE
GARDNER ON MONDAY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Representative Gardner's movement to have Congress authorize a special investigation into the national defence received further impetus to-day with the announcement by Senator Lodge that he will introduce a resolution similar to that of Mr. Gardner and the statement at the White House that the President will be received by the President on Monday for a discussion of his proposal.

Senator Lodge declared he could not believe that the President was opposed to such an investigation "for there is nobody who has so earnestly advocated publicity as the President in his interesting book 'The New Freedom'."

The Senator declared the investigation would not commit the Government to any policy, but that the people were fully entitled to know whether or not the myriad of public statements regarding the national unpreparedness for war were accurate and that therefore the investigation should be made.

Mr. Gardner said he hoped to be permitted to take "several gentlemen" to the White House with him and that he would urge the President to withdraw his opposition, to encourage a ye and nay vote and to permit army and navy officers to testify before the Rules Committee of the House, to which the resolution has been referred.

Opposed by Chairmen.

The President, while not authorizing an expression as to his attitude, has let it be understood that he believes all the desirable ends of the Gardner resolution can be attained through the regular hearings of the House committees on Fortifications, Naval Affairs and Military Affairs. He will confer with Representative Shirley, chairman of the first named committee, on Friday. Mr. Shirley is openly opposed to the resolution. Chairman Fitzpatrick of the Appropriations Committee takes the same position.

Senator Lodge said he thought his "resolution of inquiry" ought to be adopted by both houses and approved by the President.

"We hear it said that from our regular army and militia combined we could not at this moment get together 120,000 men for our defence," he continued. "It has been publicly stated that we have not sufficient ammunition even for such troops as we have, that our fortifications for our great cities are very insufficient; that we have few if any guns of greater range than those on battleships; that such troops as we have, instead of being concentrated at the points where they are needed, are scattered through the country at different posts in positions where there is no need of troops. It is said that we have nothing resembling reserves, either of men or ammunition, and no sufficient arrangement made for providing means to protect our harbors."

People Should Know.

"For one would like to know, and I think the American people would like to know, whether or not there is truth in these statements."

"We want to know what we can read in the newspapers almost every day statements of a similar character. I know myself that we are short of scout cruisers, have only three or four, and that the national defence ought never to be a party question."

"We are insufficiently supplied with airplanes and hydroplanes, which are so essential to modern warfare."

"We have a large number of submarines—not enough in proportion to our fleet—but it is stated that many of those of early type are not at all fit for service and would be practically useless. It is said that we have only one torpedo to a submarine."

"We ought to have the truth about these things, and then it is for the American people and nobody else to decide what they shall be done. It is not a party question, and the national defence ought never to be a party question."

TORPEDO SHORTAGE CUT.

Admiral Strauss Says Navy Is Rushing Munition Orders.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Considerable progress toward remedying the shortage of torpedoes in the United States navy has been made in the last year, according to the naval report of Rear Admiral Joseph Strauss, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department. There has been a net increase of 255 torpedoes, of which 232 were purchased from contractors and the balance manufactured or rebuilt at the Government torpedo station at Newport.

The capacity of the torpedo plant has been increased, so that the superintendent of the station believes it can be brought up to 200 torpedoes a year. Orders have been given for new torpedoes which will give the extra appropriation granted last year.

Torpedoes are also to be manufactured at the Washington navy yard in the Department's effort to make up the existing shortage as rapidly as Congress provides the money and also to place the Government in a position of less dependence upon the sole American firm manufacturing these weapons.

There must be provided for to insure an adequate reserve supply, it is stated.

Experiments conducted at Newport during the last year have resulted in cutting the cost of torpedoes in half and increasing the range and speed of the torpedo now used in the navy. It is believed these increases will finally enable the Government to produce a torpedo of the long range of battleships guns as it is required.

The greater range and speed will also

Continued on Fifth Page.

Riot in Broadway When
Policeman Shoots Maniac

Attacked and Beaten by Three Men. He Fells One With a
Bullet and Sits on Him Till the Reserves
Beat Back Crowd.

PRISONER'S RAVINGS INDICATE RELIGIOUS MANIA

Policeman George P. Muller was approached at Broadway and Twenty-fourth street shortly after 6 o'clock last night by three men. One of them, who carried a large black valise, said that they were on their way to Brooklyn and that instead of letting them off at Fourth avenue their street car had carried them to Broadway. He asked Muller to show them how to get to Brooklyn.

Muller started down Broadway toward Twenty-third street with them and was in the middle of the block when the spokesman for the trio suddenly grabbed the policeman's arm, breaking his nose and blinding him in one eye. At the same time another man seized him by the collar and tried to get his hands at the policeman's neck. The third man leaped upon Muller's back.

Muller shook off two of the men and lunging forward caught the club before it could descend again. Then the trio ran, the spokesman fleeing across the plaza in front of the Flatiron Building. Muller drew his revolver and brought the fugitive down with a bullet in the thigh. Then he staggered up to him and sat on him, faint from the pain of his own wound.

In a minute an enormous crowd had gathered and from ear to ear flew the word that there had been a gang shoot-

ink. Some one telephoned to Police Headquarters and the reserves from the West Twenty-ninth street station under Capt. Burns drove through the throng at riot speed.

Police Commissioner Woods came in his automobile, but went away as soon as he saw what the trouble was. After getting the crowd started on its way the reserves put Muller and his prisoner in an ambulance and they were taken to the New York Hospital. Dr. Stevens took the bullet from the prisoner's leg and spliced up the nose of the policeman.

The prisoner gave his name as Paul Bruzanak, a Hungarian, 25 years old, and said he lived at 21 Nostrand avenue, Brooklyn. He said that he had come to New York from St. Anthony's monastery, a Franciscan institution in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was employed as a dishwasher and where he had been studying very hard. He then began to rave and tell his beads, calling the policemen "anti-Christians" and "Judeans." He was finally sent to Bellevue and placed in the psychiatric ward.

In his valise was found some bread, a pair of shoes, a Bible, quantities of religious literature and religious pictures. His companions escaped. Muller said afterward that having found out that Bruzanak was a maniac, he believed that his companions were also demented. Detectives went out last night to find two men.

CHICAGO HAS FIRST
MUNICIPAL DANCE

From Mayor Harrison Down,
7,000 Make Big Success of
City's Experiment.

WALTZ AND TWOSTEP ONLY

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Father Dearborn, for many years a social reformer, was host tonight at his own coming out party and dance at the Waldorf-Astoria.

The dancing was just as it used to be when Father Dearborn was a boy. There were no tangos, fox trots, maxims, bunny hugs, Philadelphia flips or banana dances. Instead two old, old fashioned dances—let's see on yes, the waltz and two-step, they were called—came back to their own.

It was "Chicago's first municipal dance," and possibly because Mayor Funkhouser was expected a thick layer of policemen and police women were spread around the walls of the big Dreamland dance hall at Van Buren and Fulton streets before the doors were thrown open.

Within the police cordon were other things of professional social workers, amateur social workers and investigators, and a host of other people who were there to see the first municipal dance.

Major Funkhouser was not the only public character by any means who honored Father Dearborn's party. In his presence, from Mayor Harrison to the office boy in the Department of Public Works office in the City Hall, folk were there.

From Chief Gleason and Assistant Chief Schuetzler, hands in kid gloves and debonairly conversing with silk clad women, to Probationary Patrolman Murphy, waiting in his uniform before the surprised guests of a pair of more experienced lady officers, the Police Department was represented.

Then there was County Judge Owens and Municipal Judge Goodnow and all the official chaperons of Judges in between, together with Assistant State's Attorneys Witty and Sullivan and a contingent from the North Side.

There were present, too, many persons whose faces were familiar to the assistant prosecutors and to the police officials, who had met them in a professional way, but there was no professional dancing. Ratty the Dancer, "Smelly the Rat" were out for pleasure and not for business.

But the bulkheads of the whole affair, the official chaperons, the good-looking, well-dressed thousands of John and Marys who had come to see what fun there could be in city supervised dancing. When it was all over the John and Marys, a bit tired and greatly impressed with the terseness of the old time dances, indicated by a rising vote that they would come again—and come often.

ADMIRAL'S SON WEDS NURSE

Dr. Osterhaus and Miss Currie of
Seaview Hospital Surprise Friends.

Dr. Karl Osterhaus, son of Admiral Hugo Osterhaus, U. S. N., retired, slipped over to Manhattan from Staten Island early yesterday morning and married Miss Elizabeth Oxley Currie of Winslow, Nova Scotia, before any one knew they were even engaged. Both came from the Seaview Hospital at New Dorp, where Dr. Osterhaus is a member of the staff and Miss Currie is one of the nurses.

The marriage was as much of a surprise to Admiral Osterhaus, who is at his home in Washington, as it was to the couple's friends at the hospital. The marriage ceremony was performed by Admiral Osterhaus at the hospital. He is 65 years old and she is 24 years old. Dr. Osterhaus gave 1530 Calverly avenue, Washington, as his address and his bride was going to remain at the hospital.

PRINCE JOACHIM AT FRONT.

Receives Iron Cross Before Joining
Staff in East.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
BERLIN, Dec. 2.—Prince Joachim, youngest son of the Kaiser, has joined the staff in command on the eastern front. He has received the order of the Iron Cross of the first class.

ARMY LIFE FULL OF
WINE AND KISSES

Lawyer for Divorced Wife of
Lieut. Naylor Says It Caused
Her Downfall.

TELLS OF LOVEMAKING

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Life at United States army posts was held up as a continual round of loose conduct before the Superior court here this afternoon when Congressman-elect John Scott, as counsel for the divorced wife of Lieut. Charles J. Naylor, U. S. A., of this city, appealed for a reversal of the findings of the lower court, which awarded the divorce to Lieut. Naylor against the recommendation of the master.

Mr. Scott denounced Lieut. Naylor's charge of unfaithfulness, declaring it was constructed "from the most despicable and malicious of hired spies in providing paid for evidence."

As to the relations that preceded the alleged episode of Mrs. Naylor and Allen O'Bryan, an army contractor, in a New York hotel Mr. Scott said:

"Who is to blame for those relations but this libellant herself? From out of her West he took this unsophisticated country girl, married her and took her to various army posts, where he was assigned. He introduced her to a social life at these posts which was a revelation to this innocent girl. No conventions or the niceties of domestic propriety prevailed in this army life."

"The testimony heard before the master showed it was a common, pardonable practice for the officers to drink to excess. Drinking seemed a part of the post's social life. Army officers kissed and were even more intimate with each other's wives. Pseudo love notes were exchanged between the men and women. There was way to what it is charged happened later in New York, and cannot be considered seriously in connection with the Lieut. Naylor's baseless accusations against his wife."

Against this argument E. P. Bliss, representing Lieut. Naylor, declared that Mrs. Naylor was not the unsophisticated girl pictured and that during the years of their life at the army posts Mrs. Naylor became sophisticated and both she and her husband had been ostracized and went from post to post because of their loose conduct.

He maintained that the charge was well established by the circumstances of the visit of O'Bryan and Mrs. Naylor to the New York hotel, the character of which was well known.

FORGOT ABOUT RETURN TRIP.

Paymaster-General Has to Revise
Estimates on Coal Shipments.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Paymaster-General McGowan of the United States navy fell down on a simple business proposition before the House Naval Committee this week. He told the committee that as a measure of economy he proposed to ship coal from Philadelphia to the Philippines in naval colliers, instead of using merchant ships. He said the price of coal shipped 12,000 tons in a collier and that in the course of the voyage 4,000 tons would be consumed, leaving 8,000 tons for the Philippines. He said that the committee had agreed to a saving of \$13,000.

"Well," said a member of the committee, who has some reputation as a business man, "how much coal will it take to bring the collier back from the Philippines?"

"By George," exclaimed the Paymaster-General, "I never thought of that. I shall have to revise my estimate."

AUSTRIANS TAKE
BELGRADE; SIEGE
LASTED 126 DAYS

Servian Capital Is Mass of
Ruins After Long
Bombardment.

KINGDOM IN DANGER
OF BULGARIAN ATTACK

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Dec. 2.—Belgrade has fallen. Austrian troops marched into the city to-day after a siege that began on July 29, four days after King Peter and his court fled south to Nish and established there the temporary capital of Servia. The occupation of the city was announced in Vienna this morning. The news was given in a telegram to Emperor Francis Joseph from Gen. Frank, commander of the Fifth Army Corps. The message said:

"On the occasion of the sixty-sixth anniversary of your reign permit me to lay at your feet the information that Belgrade was occupied to-day by the Fifth Army Corps."

During the four months siege, which was lifted only on two occasions when the Servians were in temporary possession of Semlin, the Hungarian city across the river Save, Belgrade has been almost continuously and is now reported by persons who have been there to be nothing more than a mass of ruins.

Warning that the fall of the Servian capital was imminent was given in telegrams received here early to-day from Sofia, which said that the Servian army had been obliged to withdraw from Belgrade and that telegraphic communication with Nish had been interrupted.

Despatches from Athens said that Belgrade had become isolated owing to the concentration of the Servian army on defensive lines and was not prepared to stand a siege.

Situation in Kingdom Serious.

There is no disguising the fact that the situation of the Servians is extremely dangerous and hopes are entertained in high circles here and in France that Russia will soon be able to send an army to aid King Peter and to save his country from complete subjection at the hands of the Austrians. Servia has already appealed to Russia and has pointed out that she may not be able much longer to oppose seriously the superior Austrian armies, which have lately been strengthened by the arrival of about 30,000 Bavarian troops and a number of German officers.

With the diminution of Servia's strength the situation in the Balkans becomes more serious. It has long been recognized that Bulgaria need not need much provocation to attack Servia and get revenge for the humiliation she suffered after the second Balkan war. Recognizing this fact, the Russian government has sent Prince Troubetzkoy as an envoy to try to arrange an entente between the Bulgars and the Serbs. He is now on his way and Russian are optimistic as to the success of his mission.

The Austro-German army now operating against Servia is said to number nearly half a million men. It is estimated that there are not more than 200,000 Serbs.

Austria Makes Further Gains.

In the field of operations south of Belgrade the Austrians are winning other successes. Despatches from Nish report that the Servians were forced to fall back yesterday from the region of Oudizite and Koceljevitch. It is also admitted that the Austrians have captured an important strategic point near Sava, where they have concentrated large forces. The Servians, however, had made some progress along the Kolubara River, but on November 28, according to reports received in Nish, the Servians took certain positions occupied by the Austrians near Lazarevatz, taking 27 officers and 2,000 men prisoners.

SERVIAN ARMY WORN OUT.

Austrian Purpose Is to Gain Control
of Railway to Constantinople.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Dec. 2.—The Daily Chronicle's Athens correspondent telegraphs:

"The Servian army is worn out and although still capable of considerable resistance, probably will be unable long to keep the Austrians out of Nish. Steps already have been taken to remove the Government to Eskub when necessary. It is certain that one of the objects of the despatch of Austrian reinforcements to Servia is to obtain control of the railway from Belgrade to Sofia and Constantinople and thus to allow the free movement of troops and munitions in either direction between Germany and Constantinople."

"As soon as Austria has secured control of the Belgrade-Sofia railway the Austro-Germans will be in a position to concentrate their forces at such points as they choose on the main line through the Balkans and sent troops to Syria or Russia."

LOSE AT TWO POINTS.

Servians Admit Defeat at Important
Positions.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
NISH, Dec. 2.—The following official statement was given out here yesterday:

"Sanguinary fighting occurred on November 28 at Sombor. The enemy developed all his forces and at sunset occupied the town. The Servians were successful on November 28 near Lazarevatz, where they captured nearly 2,000 prisoners."

AUSTRIA SEEKS RAILWAY.

Sofia Road Will Permit Bypassing
of Turks to France.

ATHENS, Dec. 2.—A new phase of the war is developing in the near East. After capturing Belgrade, Austria is now, in accordance with carefully laid German plans, strongly reinforcing her army in Servia and concentrating her forces at such points as she chooses on the main line through the Balkans, or, for that matter, to send troops to Syria or to place Turkish troops in France or Russia.

Britain to Blame, Says
Chancellor to Reichstag

Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg Predicts Victory, but Says
End of Sacrifices Is Not Near—Attacks
Russia in Speech.

NEW WAR CREDIT OF \$1,250,000,000 IS VOTED

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
BERLIN, via Amsterdam, Dec. 2.—Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, Chancellor of the German Empire, opened the second war session of the Reichstag in Berlin to-day with a stirring speech lauding the Kaiser, praising the Turks, excoriating England and predicting a German triumph.

Following the address the Reichstag adopted a new war credit of 5,000,000,000 marks (\$1,250,000,000). There was only one dissenting vote, that of the Socialist leader, Herr Liebknecht.

The Chancellor, just returned from army headquarters and wearing the uniform of a General, addressed an audience in which were many in uniform and decorated with the Iron Cross. Some of the delegates had returned, like the Chancellor, from service in the field.

The features of the long, impassioned address were that while Russia is apparently to blame for the war Great Britain is actually responsible, because Great Britain could have made a war impossible by notifying Russia she would not permit it; that Germany relies on Turkey to find the "weak spots" in the world position of the Allies; that Germany will take vengeance for the treatment of her nationals in hostile countries, and that Germany is certain to win a war "fought defensively for honor and freedom."

Addressing the body Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg brought from the Kaiser a message to Germany's lawmakers.

"The Emperor, who is with the army," said the Chancellor, "has charged me to transmit his best wishes and most cordial greetings to the members of the Reichstag, with whom he is united till death. In stress of danger and common concern for the weal of the Fatherland our first thought goes out to the Kaiser."

"The army and the navy are fighting for our honor and for the greatness of the empire. With full pride and unshakable confidence we look to them and to our Austro-Hungarian comrades united with us to fight great battles with brilliant bravery."

"Japan joined our enemies from a desire to seize as booty the monument to German culture in the Far East."

"The most recent ally who has been obliged to join us is the Ottoman Empire, which knows well that with the destruction of the German Empire it too loses its national right to control its own destiny."

"As our enemies formed a powerful coalition against us, they will, I hope, find that the arm of our brave allies reaches weak spots in their world position."

"On August 8 the Reichstag expressed the firm resolution of the whole people to undertake the war which had been forced on them and to defend our independence to the utmost. Since then great deeds have been accomplished. With incomparable gallantry our troops have carried the war into the enemy's country. There we still stand firm."

"We can regard the future with every confidence, but the enemy's resistance is not yet broken and we may not yet end our sacrifices, which it is the national will to continue to support. These sacrifices are of the same heroic nature as hitherto, for we must and will fight to a successful end our defensive war for right and freedom."

"We will then remember how our defenseless compatriots in hostile countries were maltreated in a manner which disgraces all civilization. The world must learn that no one can hurt a single hair of the head of a German subject with impunity."

"It is evident to us who is responsible for this greatest of all wars. It is apparent that responsibility falls on Russia, who ordered and carried out the mobilization of the Russian army. The real responsibility, however, falls on the British Government and Cabinet. London could have made war impossible if she had declared without ambiguity to Petrograd that Britain would not allow a continental war to develop from the Austro-Servian conflict. Such a declaration would also have obliged France to take energetic measures to restrain Russia from warlike operations. Then our action as mediators between Petrograd and Vienna would have been successful and there would have been no war."

"But Britain did not act thus. There were bilious machinations, partly irresponsible, but a powerful group around the Czar saw how the ball was rolling and placed no obstacle in its path. In spite of all its assurances as a desiring peace, London informed Petrograd that Britain was on the side of France, consequently on the side of Russia."

DE WET CAPTURED,
PRETORIA ANNOUNCES

Boer Rebel Leader Is a Prisoner
in Hands of Botha's
Troops.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Dec. 2.—Official announcement has been made in Pretoria that Gen. Christiaan De Wet, leader of the Boer rebellion in the Union of South Africa, has been captured by loyal troops under Gen. Botha.

De Wet's command was routed by Gen. Botha near Winburg in the middle of November, but De Wet escaped, although hotly pursued. A recent report that he was hiding with two companions confidently assumed his capture. This means the end of the rebellion already scotched by Gen. Botha's vigorous handling.

GERMAN SUBMARINE IN TRAP.

Caught in Zeebrugge Canal When
Sluice Gates Jam.

By HUGH MARTIN.
Special Correspondent of the London "Daily News."

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
ROTTERDAM, Dec. 2.—The German engineers at Zeebrugge are in a quandary because the British bombardment caused the sluice gates of the sea canal to jam and a submarine is imprisoned in the canal.

The torrential rains in Belgium are again impeding the movements of the Germans, evidently delaying the development of the great battle which is expected.

TURKS MASSACRE CHRISTIANS.

Banks in Palestine Looted, Says
Cairo Report.

By Central News.
ROME, Dec. 2.—The Cairo correspondent telegraphs that the Turks have pillaged all banks in Palestine and are robbing Europeans and massacring Christians.

Fugitives are unloading on Italian steamers.

ALEX. TAYLOR SCHOOL OF GOLF.

Engagement books now open.
38 E. 42d St., opp Hotel Manhattan.—Ado.

KING GEORGE VISITS
TROOPS IN TRENCHES

Goes Into Firing Line at Night
and Makes Trip With
Poincare.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Dec. 2.—The English newspapers pay great attention to the visit of the King to France, especially to a visit he made at night to the men in the trenches. It is noted that five rulers are now at the front with their respective armies.

It is evident that the King is having a busy time. The correspondent of the Daily Express in northern France says King George has talked with hundreds of officers and men, has visited the wounded in the field hospitals, has stood side by side with the men in the trenches, has held an important conference with President Poincare and on the chief leaders of the allied armies, including Gen. Joffre.

The visit to the trenches was made on Tuesday, when the King, guided by two staff officers, visited a number of batteries and men, has visited the wounded in the field hospitals, has stood side by side with the men in the trenches, has held an important conference with President Poincare and on the chief leaders of the allied armies, including Gen. Joffre.

It was touched all the men was the King's keen personal interest in their welfare, his eagerness to know how they were fed, what life on the firing line was like and whether they were receiving everything possible for their comfort. The soldiers talked freely with the monarch. One of the things that they repeated over and over again was that he had no fear, that they meant to see the thing through. I understand that the feature of the visit which impressed his Majesty the most was the general cheerful determination to make the best of everything that comes along until the Germans are beaten.

"Every moment which the King has been able to spare from his official visits and inspections has been devoted to interest in and cheering the wounded in the field hospitals. He has talked with them, shaken hands and done everything to show how proud he is of them and how anxious for their welfare. It has been the best of all things that he has seen the wounded try to cheer and salute their sovereign."

President Poincare, Premier Viviani and Gen. Joffre visited British headquarters yesterday and had long and cordial conversations with the King, after which he and President Poincare motored together to the British front in an open automobile, and the most intense enthusiasm.

They drove to the centre of the British lines, where the King and Mr. Poincare thoroughly inspected the commissariat and other arrangements. The King then invited the French President to dinner at British headquarters. The dinner was a historic gathering. Among those present besides the two chiefs of state were the British and French staffs, Gen. Joffre, Gen. Foch, Gen. Haig and Gen. Pershing. Mr. Poincare and the Premier returned to Paris this morning.

GREEN STRIKE SCOTCH.

IN NON-REFILLABLE BOTTLES.
ANDREW USHER & CO., Edinburgh.—Ado.

CZAR OCCUPIES
PLOCK, SEIZES
RELIEF LINES

His Armies Now Squarely on
Gen. von Mackensen's
Right Flank.

VON RENNENKAMPF
SAID TO BE OUSTED

Arrived at Lodz Late and Is
Relieved of Command.
Is Report.

RUSSIANS 16 MILES
FROM INSTERBURG

Occupy More Territory in
East Prussia Than at
Previous Time.

SUMMARY OF THE WAR NEWS.

The great issue now being fought out in Poland—whether the Germans can plunge forward to Warsaw or whether the Russians can overflow Silesia—is still undecided.

The German armies between Lodz and Lwowitz hewed through a Russian wall, Petrograd admits, but paid a terrible price in killed and wounded. More to the north a Russian army has occupied Plock, Petrograd announces officially, and has cut the German line of connection with Thorn along the Vistula. Petrograd says that Cracow is practically invested.

Gen. von Rennenkampf, the Russian cavalry leader, is reported to have been relieved of his command because he reached Lodz too late to enable the Russians to completely surround the Germans.

Germany announces officially that the battles in Poland are taking the normal course and that her armies took 80,000 unwounded Russian prisoners between November 11 and December 1.

The occupation of Belgrade, after four months of investment, is officially announced in Vienna, together with the statement that the Servian army is cut off from Nish, Servia's temporary capital. It appears from the news that Servia's resistance is crumbling before vastly superior power, and that great losses in men and a lack of munitions have hastened disaster.

There was severe fighting yesterday and Tuesday pretty much along the whole battle front in Flanders and France. Paris is in doubt as to whether the breaking of the fall means a general offensive movement by the Allies or a new and widespread attack by the Germans.

Paris says officially that the Allies made gains near Ypres and in the region north of La Bassée, overmatched the Germans in artillery combats along the west flank, threw the Germans back in the region of Verdun and went forward in the invasion of Alsace.

Berlin says officially that the armies of the Kaiser checked insignificant advances by the Allies in Belgium and northern France and captured a strong position in the Argonne, credit falling to the Kaiser's own regiment of Württemberg infantry.

A singular feature of the war news is the statement received from Paris by the Daily Mail of London, that the situation in Belgium and France is at such close contact and of such ferocity that the most ancient lethal weapons are now being used as more effective than modern instruments of destruction. Hand grenades are in use. Catapults for stone slinging, shields for defence, even gauntlets are suggested as practicable.

It is reported in London that Gen. de Wet, the leader of the South African rebels, has been captured.

DESPERATE FIGHTING
AT LODZ CONTINUES

Russians Occupy Plock and Capture
More Vessels.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Dec. 2.—Now that the period of extravagant claims from Petrograd is past and a certain agreement is found in the official Russian and German reports it is possible to summarize the general situation in the eastern theatre of war.

The official report given out in Petrograd to-night by the General Staff says that the Germans were thrown back in a night attack near Lodz, where they sought by sheer weight of numbers to break through the Russian lines.

A Russian column has occupied the town of Wloclaw, in Galicia, ten miles southeast of Cracow and on the main line of railway. The report was as follows:

Yesterday there was relative calm on all of the fronts.

In the region of Lwowitz the fighting continued with less intensity.

Toward midnight the enemy marching in close order, made a violent attack against our positions north of Lodz, but was repulsed.

Our troops entered Wloclaw, south of Cracow.

Unquestionably the most bitterly fought battle of the eastern campaign—the battle between Lodz and Lwowitz—has not yet come to decisive issue.